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Letter dated 22 July 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 22 July 2011, addressed to you by Hilmi Akil, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Fazlı **Çorman**
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 22 July 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 7 July 2011, addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative in New York and circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council (A/65/901-S/2011/424), which yet again contains allegations of violations of "the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic", and to bring to your kind attention the following.

It will be recalled that similar allegations of so-called violations of airspace and air traffic regulations were refuted in our previous communications addressed to you, most recently in our letter dated 5 April 2011 (A/65/806-S/2011/235, annex). I wish, once again, to reiterate that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the State, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in South Cyprus has no jurisdiction or right of say whatsoever. It should be stressed that claims of so-called violations of air traffic regulations are invalid, as the civil aviation authority of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is the only authority competent to provide air traffic and aeronautical information services.

As stated in our previous letters, such assertions are based on the false and unlawful claim that the sovereignty of the Greek Cypriot administration extends over the whole island, including the territory of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. This pretentious contention by the Greek Cypriot side ignores the present realities on the island of Cyprus, namely, the existence of two independent States, each exercising sovereignty and jurisdiction within its respective territory.

Attempts by the Greek Cypriot side, through often-repeated false claims, to confer legitimacy upon an illegal administration will be futile, since the Turkish Cypriot people will never give in to their unjust demands. What would indeed be conducive to a better atmosphere on the island would be for the Greek Cypriot side to stop arrogating to itself rights and responsibilities it does not legally have, and to cease all hostilities towards the Turkish Cypriot people.

I would like to put on record once again that every precaution for air navigation is being taken by the Turkish Cypriot civil aviation authority, which stands ready to cooperate with its counterpart in the South in the interest of air traffic safety in the region. It will be a sign of sincerity on the part of the Greek Cypriot authorities to respond constructively to such cooperation.

Furthermore, the Greek Cypriot administration should be reminded that its counterpart is, and has always been, the Turkish Cypriot side, not Turkey, and that its persistent denial of the Turkish Cypriot rights in the North of the island does not bode well for the prospects for a settlement of the Cyprus conflict in line with the established United Nations parameters, namely, a partnership based on a bizonal, bicommunal federation with the political equality of the two constituent States.

Instead of continuing with its well-known allegations, which clearly do not contribute to a spirit of trust and partnership between the two sides, the Greek Cypriot side must show commitment and participate constructively in the United

Nations-led negotiations to pave the way for a mutually acceptable and fair settlement of the Cyprus question.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hilmi **Akil**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus